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the demolition of a house are contained in the law on "Volkshuisvesting" (inclosure No. 3 in separate cover), pages 71 to 80. In short, the provisions are as follows: When it has been decided by the city government that a building is unfit to live in and unfit for any other purpose and therefore has to be demolished, the owner is reimbursed to the amount of the appraised value of the lot on which the building stands and the appraised value of the building material from which the house is constructed. A tenant who has to vacate a dwelling to be demolished is reimbursed to the amount of four times the rent for the period for which he has rented, not to exceed the rent for one year. A tenant who rented the dwelling he has vacated by the week is reimbursed by the city authorities to the amount of four times the weekly rent.

AUSTRALIA.

Report from Melbourne—Plague in Brisbane—Western Australia free from plague.

Consul-General Bray forwards the following received from Alfred D. Larkin, department of external affairs, Melbourne:

Melbourne, February 16, 1904: In continuation of my telegram of the 12th of February I have the honor to inform you that another case of plague was discovered in Brisbane on the 13th instant.

February 17, 1904: I have the honor to inform you that the State of Western Australia has been declared free from plague, the last case having occurred on the 4th November, 1903.

February 19, 1904: In continuation of my letter of the 16th February, I have the honor to inform you that a fourth case of plague was reported at Brisbane on the 17th instant.

Report from Sydney.

Leprosy in New South Wales for the year 1901.

The following is taken from the report by Dr. Ashburton Thompson, chief medical officer of the Government and president of the board of health:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH, *Sydney, December 31, 1903.*

On January 1, 1901, 11 persons remained under detention at the lazaret.

During the year 10 persons were reported to the board under the leprosy act, 1890, as being suspected lepers, and of these 9 were ultimately admitted to the lazaret under warrants which were issued by the board after careful inquiry into each case.

Five patients died during the year; 2 were natives of New South Wales of European descent; 1 a native of Fiji of European descent; 1 a native of Tanna (New Hebrides), and 1 a female Chinese.

Thus the number remaining in the lazaret on December 31, 1901, was 15 persons; 9 were whites, 5 of whom were natives of New South Wales of European descent, 1 was a native of Germany, 2 were natives of England, and 1 was a native of the United States of America. Of the colored lepers, 1 was a Javanese, 4 were natives of China, and 1 a native of Aoba Island, New Hebrides.

The total number of persons admitted since 1883, when patients first began to be received (though the notification of leprosy was first made compulsory, and the detention of lepers provided for by law only toward the end of 1890), is 78. Distributed under nationalities, the account stands as follows: Natives of New South Wales, 21, of whom 15 have died and 1 was released; of Queensland, 1, deceased; of England, 4, of whom 2 have died; of Ireland, 2, deceased; of New Zealand, 1, deceased; of Fiji, 1, deceased; of Germany, 2, of whom 1 has died; of Belgium, 1, deceased; of the United States of America, 1; and all of these were whites, of European descent. There were also 37 natives of China, of whom 12 have died and 21 have been returned to their own country; of India, 2 deceased; of the West Indies, 1, discharged in 1885; of Java, 1; of Tanna (New Hebrides), 1, deceased; of New Caledonia, 1, deceased; of South Sea Islands, 1; and all of these were colored people.

Every opportunity has been given to members of the medical profession to visit the lazaret for the purpose of seeing such patients as were formerly under their care and for study of the disease. The needs of the patients have been carefully supplied by experienced attendants and nurses under the direct supervision of the medical superintendent.

BRAZIL.

Reports from Bahia—Mortuary statistics—Smallpox.

Vice-Consul Rowe reports, February 22 and 29, as follows: During the week ended February 20, 1904, 67 bodies were interred in the Bahia cemeteries.

Causes of death: Aortic dilatation 1, alcoholism 1, asphyxia 1, bronchitis 1, cerebral congestion 1, death by violence 1, diarrhea and enteritis 6, fibroma 2, gangrene 1, intestinal parasites 2, malarial fevers 3, meningitis 1, nephritis 1, organic diseases of heart 4, pulmonary tuberculosis 6, rheumatism 1, smallpox 1, senile debility 2, stillborn 7, tetanus 2, syphilis 1, tetanus neonatorum 2, other causes 19.

Week ended February 27, 1904, 75 bodies.

Causes of death: Alcoholism 1, apoplexy 1, arterio-sclerosis 1, asthma 1, bronchitis 1, cerebral congestion 2, cirrhosis of liver 1, diarrhea and enteritis 6, dysentery 1, epilepsy 1, gangrene 2, intestinal parasites 1, malarial fever 1, meningitis 1, nephritis 1, organic diseases of heart 7, peritonitis 1, puerperal eclampsia 1, pneumonia 4, pulmonary tuberculosis 6, rachitis 1, rheumatism 1, senile debility 2, stillborn 3, syphilis 2, tetanus 1, tetanus neonatorum 3, enteric fever 1, umbilical hemorrhage 4, whooping cough 1, other causes 15.

Report from Rio de Janeiro—Inspection of vessels—Plague, smallpox, and yellow fever.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, February 15, as follows: During the week ended February 13 I inspected and issued bills of health to the following vessels leaving this port:

The steamship *Stefania*, Austro-Hungarian, for New Orleans, La., with cargo of coffee only, no passengers, and no change of personnel at this port, sailing for New Orleans via Victoria, Brazil, on February 9. As this ship left here for another Brazilian port, she was disinfected before leaving by the health authorities of the port.